

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW TIGER-BEETLE FROM THE
NORTHERN TERRITORY.

BY THOMAS G. SLOANE.

CICINDELA ÆNEODORSIS, n.sp.

Allied to *C. aurita* Sloane. ♂. Oval, convex, glabrous (including sternal sidepieces and posterior coxæ); prothorax with a stout, obtuse, subprominent, antebasal node on each side. Head, prothorax, disc of elytra and undersurface cupreous; ventral segments 1-5 with fiery reflections, sixth ventral segment testaceous; elytra with a lacteous margin (except beside scutellum), this margin narrow on sides of base, becoming wider backwards from shoulder to apex (thus causing the cupreous discal area to be triangular in shape), sutural and apical border metallic; labrum and base of mandibles lacteous; palpi pallid with apex viridescent; antennæ with two basal joints green, third and fourth joints testaceous towards base, green at apex, joints 5-11 light brown with pale pubescence; coxæ and tibiæ testaceous, apex of tibiæ viridescent, tarsi with joints 1-4 testaceous (apex viridescent), fifth joint dark with virescent tinge.

Head wide (3.5 mm. across eyes), coarsely shagreened, longitudinally striolate and lightly concave between eyes. Prothorax very coarsely shagreened, broader than long (2.15 × 3.1 mm.), hardly wider at middle than at posterior nodes (3 mm.), constricted anteriorly by the strongly marked transverse line, rather depressed on disc, lightly declivous to sides; posterior transverse line defining a depressed basal area, lightly marked; sides strongly ampliate behind anterior transverse line, subparallel (a little rounded) towards posterior nodes; apex with a well-marked border; posterior nodes a little before the base, wide, obtuse, a little prominent, not directed backwards. Elytra oval (7.5 × 4.7 mm.); discal metallic area strongly and deeply punctate, the

punctures becoming finer towards apex ; lacteous lateral area covered with shallow punctures (these punctures large near metallic area, and becoming fine towards margins of elytra). Length 12, breadth 4·7 mm.

Hab.—Northern Territory. One specimen ticketed “Flooded area, King River, N.T.; W. McLennan; 24.12.15”; in National Museum, Melbourne.

This is one of the most distinct Australian species of *Cicindela*; it is the only member of the *C. tetragramma*-group with the elytra having a wide testaceous margin and a large, compact, triangular, discal, metallic area without any lacteous spots or stripes. It has the head and prothorax more strongly shagreened, and the elytra more strongly punctate than any other species of the group; the posterior nodes of the prothorax are somewhat as shown in Mr. Lea's figure of the prothorax of *C. albolineata* Macl., (Proc. Linn. Soc. N. S. Wales, 1906, Pl. xxx., fig. 101), but are rather more obtuse and less prominent.